



BUILDING-STRUCTURE INVENTORY FORM

NYS OFFICE OF PARKS, RECREATION
& HISTORIC PRESERVATION
DIVISION FOR HISTORIC PRESERVATION
(518) 474-0479

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY

UNIQUE SITE NO. _____
QUAD _____
SERIES _____
NEG. NO. _____

YOUR NAME: Cynthia Howk DATE: Dec., 1994.
133 S. Fitzhugh St.
YOUR ADDRESS: Rochester, NY 14608 TELEPHONE: 546-7029
ORGANIZATION (if any): The Landmark Society of Western New York, Inc.

IDENTIFICATION

1. BUILDING NAME(S): Farnum - Weber House
2. COUNTY: Monroe TOWN/CITY: Greece VILLAGE: ---
3. STREET LOCATION: 1173 English Road (S.W. corner of Fetzner Rd.)
4. OWNERSHIP: a. public ☐ b. private ☒ 304 Ballard Ave.
5. PRESENT OWNER: Athanasios & Mary Tzogas ADDRESS: Rochester, NY 14626
6. USE: Original: residence/farm Present: residence
7. ACCESSIBILITY TO PUBLIC: Exterior visible from public road: Yes ☒ No ☐
Interior accessible: Explain private residence

DESCRIPTION

8. BUILDING MATERIAL: a. clapboard ☐ b. stone ☐ c. brick ☐ d. board and batten ☐
e. cobblestone ☐ f. shingles ☒ g. stucco ☐ other: _____
Roof = asphalt shingles. Foundation = cobblestone veneer.
9. STRUCTURAL SYSTEM: a. wood frame with interlocking joints ☒
b. wood frame with light members ☐
(if known) c. masonry load bearing walls ☐
d. metal (explain) _____
e. other _____
10. CONDITION: a. excellent ☐ b. good ☒ c. fair ☐ d. deteriorated ☐
11. INTEGRITY: a. original site ☒ b. moved ☐ if so, when? _____
c. list major alterations and dates (if known): _____

(see continuation sheet)

12. PHOTO:

13. MAP:

"This doorway is really like a jewel. This could be a lovely little house. It has original windows, but needs shutters, as there looks like there's too much wall surface between windows. The porch doesn't have much to it, either. A good, straightforward barn. Let's put this in the 'red' category, as we haven't seen too many buildings in this 'authentic' category that go back to this early 19th century period." P.Malo.

COLOR CODE

Red



14. THREATS TO BUILDING: a. none known ☐ b. zoning ☒ c. roads ☐
d. developers ☒ e. deterioration ☐
f. other: _____
15. RELATED OUTBUILDINGS AND PROPERTY:
a. barn ☒ b. carriage house ☐ c. garage ☐
d. privy ☐ e. shed ☐ f. greenhouse ☐
g. shop ☐ h. gardens ☐
i. landscape features: deciduous & coniferous trees/shrubs
j. other: large stone barbecue fireplace (front lawn)
16. SURROUNDINGS OF THE BUILDING (check more than one if necessary):
a. open land ☐ b. woodland ☐
c. scattered buildings ☐
d. densely built-up ☒ e. commercial ☐
f. industrial ☐ g. residential ☒
h. other: orchard (to north); townhouses to east & northeast.
17. INTERRELATIONSHIP OF BUILDING AND SURROUNDINGS:
(Indicate if building or structure is in an historic district)

(see continuation sheet)

18. OTHER NOTABLE FEATURES OF BUILDING AND SITE (including interior features if known):

(see continuation sheet)

SIGNIFICANCE

19. DATE OF INITIAL CONSTRUCTION: c. 1830s-1852

ARCHITECT: not determined

BUILDER: not determined

20. HISTORICAL AND ARCHITECTURAL IMPORTANCE:

(see continuation sheet)

21. SOURCES: (see continuation sheet)

22. THEME: agricultural: former farm residence & outbuilding

11c.

20th-century wood, shingle siding has been installed over the original wood clapboard siding.

The 1-story front porch (on south wing) has been enclosed with a solid knee wall and screening.

The present front door (early 1900s?) has a single-paned window and solid panels beneath.

A post-World War II concrete block chimney has been added to the south elevation of the wing.

The concrete front porch steps and wrought iron railings are post-World War II additions.

17. This mid 19th-century house is located on a 3.4-acre lot at the southwest corner of English Road and Fetzner Road in the southeast quadrant of the town. The property is set back from the road with lawn to the north, east, and south. The front elevation faces Fetzner Road. A driveway and contributing barn are located south of the house. The surrounding neighborhood is residential with mostly post-World War II houses. Contemporary townhouses (late 1980s-90s) are located on the northeast corner of English and Fetzner Roads. A complex of senior citizen townhouses is under construction across the street (to the east) from this property.

18. One-and-one-half-story, side-gable, frame farmhouse (c. 1830s-1852) with a one-story, side-gable side (south) wing. The side-gabled main block is three-bays wide by two-bays deep. The side-gabled wing is two-bays wide by one-bay deep. The house stands on a cobblestone-veneered foundation (probably fieldstone underneath). Exterior walls which are now clad in wood shingles were probably originally clad with wood clapboard. Fenestration is regular and symmetrical with 6/6, double-hung sash. There are gable-end returns in the north and south gables of the main block.

The center entrance on the facade (east elevation) features a Federal-style surround and entablature with decorative frieze. The frieze band (over the door) includes dentils and decorative moldings. Four pilasters and two narrow, rectangular side lights (windows) flank the door. Solid wood

18. continued

panels are beneath the sidelights.

The south wing includes a front porch that has been enclosed in the 1900s with a solid knee wall and screens. A contemporary concrete block chimney is located on the south elevation.

In the front (east) yard is an early 20th-century barbecue fireplace constructed of large fieldstones. Also, a late 20th-century, reproduction, cast metal Japanese garden lantern (about 3'-tall) is to the northeast of the front door.

In addition to the historic farmhouse, the property includes a gabled barn. The contributing gable-roofed barn (after the 1902 map?) is located south of the house and driveway. This barn has narrow, vertical, wood siding. The facade (east elevation) includes three sliding-track doors. The north elevation has three, small square windows. An early 20th-century metal gasoline pump is near the northeast corner of the barn.

20. The Farnum-Weber House is architecturally significant in the town of Greece as a historic farm property with an important Federal-style farmhouse (c. 1830s-1852) and a contributing gable-roofed barn. The handsome Federal-style doorway/entablature is the most sophisticated example of a Federal doorway in the town. It is historically significant for its associations with the agricultural heritage of Greece.

The side-gabled, rectangular house with side wing is representative of the typical vernacular farmhouse built in Greece in the early and mid 19th-century. Although the house is vernacular in form, its elegant front door surround and gable returns were inspired by the Federal style.

This house first appears on the 1852 county map. The property shows "P. Farnham" as the owner and two buildings are shown.

Because of the distinctive Federal-style doorway, this house may have been built earlier than the 1850s. Although larger, the Newcomb House at 400 Newcomb Rd. is similar in plan. It was constructed c. 1835. The front door surround is a

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particularly distinctive Federal-style feature. The Federal style was popular in this region from the 1780s to the 1830s. Often it would continue longer in fashion in rural areas, where styles did not change as rapidly.

Because of its distinctive Federal details, particularly the front door surround, the house may have been constructed anywhere from the 1820s to the 1850s.

It should be noted that the facade (east elevation with front door) faces to the east and Fetzner Road. Typically, the facade of a house faces the roadway - in this case, English Road. It was not until the 1970s-80s that Fetzner Rd. extended this far north. There is no present evidence that the house has been moved. It has not been determined why the main elevation/doorway of this house does not face English Road, the only roadway in existence here when this house was constructed in the early/mid 19th century.

The 1872 county map shows this property as lot 14 in School District No. 9. One building is shown and the owner is "P. Farnum Sen." (senior). A property to the west is owned by "P. Farnum Jun." (Junior).

The 1902 county map shows this site with a frame house and one outbuilding to the south (probably the current barn). It is a 54-acre parcel owned by Dorothea Weber. The 1924 map also shows Dorothea Weber as owner. The parcel is shown as 53.5 acres and there is an outbuilding to the south.

The 1930 suburban directory (the first one published) shows this property. There is no house number listed and the property is shown as "vacant." The 1959 county map shows the house and barn with E. Kenny as owner. The site is smaller and appears to be the approximate size of the present parcel (3.4 acres).

It is only in recent years (c. 1970s-80s) that Fetzner Road was extended north from Maiden Lane to intersect with English Road. The resulting increase in traffic/development is a threat to the future of this property.

21. See final report for bibliography.

